

Technology Commission

Hamden, Connecticut

Thursday, May 6, 2021

This meeting was held via Zoom.

To view the recording, please click the following link and observe the instructions if prompted:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/iiuFEnlqZi3vq7uEK-e6ECtFDhk7vNCeQPaNwa7EmzdrZcqC7FVUF AjbiuDJu_wj.n_wfxjeM5Psceoqx

If prompted for a password, enter: Ri02u+h#

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Call to Order

Mr. Beard called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Commission Members

Gary Beard - *Commission Chair*

Phil Cronan

Daniel Dunn

Others in Attendance

Alyssa Bussard – *Commission Clerk*

Agenda

Approval of March 4, 2021 Minutes

Mr. Beard called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 4, 2021. Mr. Cronan made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Dunn. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no members of the public present at this meeting. However, Mr. Cronan spoke on behalf of Ms. Sarah Clark who stated that she is impressed by the work of the Clerk of this commission and appreciates the work being done. Members of the commission seconded her sentiments.

Old Business

1. Charter Revision Commission Update

Mr. Cronan shared a document that addressed some of the agenda items presented at the last Charter Revision Commission meeting. The first item was a discussion regarding how often commissions meet. Cancelled meetings must be announced to the public as soon as possible. There was a question regarding Zoom being able to send out an announcement regarding the cancellation so that the public are aware of what has happened. Mr. Cronan shared that a workaround in lieu of deleting a meeting is to share a word document on the screen that states that the meeting has been cancelled. Mr. Beard and Mr. Cronan did speak to the Charter Revision Board regarding commissions having town email addresses. It seems as if the board was in favor of doing so. There was more discussion regarding the public having opportunities to speak on agenda items. On May 18 the final draft of the charter revision will be sent to the Legislative Council for review.

2. Town IT Approach to Email Address Questions

Mr. Dunn reported that there is no longer a block list and thus the previous issues regarding emails being blocked should be resolved.

Mr. Cronan reported that Mr. Jackson stated that they recognize how important it is that the public has the ability to contact town commissions. The recommendation is that things be pushed to a cloud which would be controlled through an external company. He will need to report back to the council regarding ways to pay for this option if it is the path pursued. Mr. Cronan also reported that someone from Town IT has resigned. Additionally, the town is operating on a Windows system that is no longer supported.

New Business

1. Town of Hamden Website “Health Check”

Mr. Dunn spoke of a document he shared regarding a health check to the town of Hamden website. He found some issues with the website such as 36 broken links including a register to vote link. There is a video tour page that is using outdated software. His suggestion is that there should be a scan of the website happening every once in a while to check on these issues as well as making the more popular links more visible and so on. Mr. Dunn also noticed that there are separate websites for different departments, such as the Police Department. If the town is spending money on a website hosting company, they could possibly be hosted under the same website as the town and thus save the town money.

2. Police Department Union Contract

Mr. Dunn spoke of the Police Department being in discussions regarding their new union contract. One of the items in the contract was regarding discussions in relation to disciplinary actions. He was thinking that as part of these discussions to improve the image of policing there could be a creation of a public database which keeps track of disciplinary and positive actions from police. This would help build trust and improve transparency in the town.

Mr. Dunn asked the commission members if they would be in favor of him sending a recommendation to the town regarding SeeClickFix. Mr. Dunn asked for a motion to be put in charge of drafting a letter regarding the above to be sent to the town managers. Mr. Beard seconded the motion and it was unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Mr. Beard requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cronan made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Dunn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2021 at 7pm and will be held via Zoom. Agenda and log-in information is forthcoming.

